Date : 10/9/2025 11:00:51 AM
From : "Stephanie Hague"
To : "dbartz@smithfield-ps.org"
Subject : Connecting from the Jewish Alliance
Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;image003.png;image004.png;
Dear Dr. Bartz,

I'm writing from the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island regarding a serious incident brought to my attention [redacted] subjected to antisemitic harassment during football practice last week at Smithfield High School.

I understand you and the school principal are already addressing this matter. I want you to know that both the Jewish Alliance and the Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center are available as resources to support you and your staff in responding to this incident.

While the family has chosen not to file a police report at this time, I trust the school will uphold its zero-tolerance policy on bullying and harassment which I hope includes:

1. **Appropriate consequences** for the students involved and those who were bystanders
2. **Educational intervention** to help these students understand the harmful nature of antisemitism and the specific impact of the language they used. The Holocaust Education Center has ample speakers and resources in this area.
3. **Ensuring ample protection** and necessary changes to ensure this student is not subjected to this in the future or any retaliation.

The Jewish community is looking to the school to demonstrate that antisemitic behavior will not be tolerated and that meaningful action—both disciplinary and educational—will be taken. I'm available to discuss how our organizations can support the school's response.
I greatly appreciate your support during this difficult time for the student and their family, and look forward to connecting.

Stephanie

Stephanie Hague
Chief Strategy Officer
401.421.4111 ext. 127
shague@jewishallianceri.org

Pronouns: she | her

401 Elmgrove Avenue | Providence, RI 02906 | jewishalliance.org

Date : 10/9/2025 2:57:49 PM
From : "Bartz, Dawn"
To : "Stephanie Hague"
BCc : "Dawn Bartz" , "Kristin Ward"
Subject : Re: Connecting from the Jewish Alliance
Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;image003.png;image004.png;

Dear Stephanie,

Thank you for reaching out and for the care and concern you've expressed on behalf of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island. We appreciate your outreach and the important work your organization does to support education and awareness across our state.

As you noted, this matter is currently under active investigation, and we are unable to share details or discuss specific students. Please know, however, that we are taking this situation very seriously and addressing it in accordance with our district's policies related to student conduct, bullying, harassment, and hazing.

We greatly value your offer of support and will be in touch soon to discuss opportunities for collaboration, such as educational programming and training focused on antisemitism, bias prevention, and inclusion.

Thank you again for reaching out and for your kind offer to be a partner in fostering a safe and respectful learning environment for our students. I will circle back with you soon.

Sincerely,

Dawn

Dawn Bartz, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Smithfield Public Schools
49 Farnum Pike, Smithfield, RI
(401) 231-6606, ext. 8101

On Thu, Oct 9, 2025 at 11:00 AM Stephanie Hague <SHague@jewishallianceri.org> wrote:

> Dear Dr. Bartz,
>
> I'm writing from the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island regarding a serious incident brought to my attention [redacted] subjected to antisemitic harassment during football practice last week at Smithfield High School.

I understand you and the school principal are already addressing this matter. I want you to know that both the Jewish Alliance and the Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center are available as resources to support you and your staff in responding to this incident.

While the family has chosen not to file a police report at this time, I trust the school will uphold its zero-tolerance policy on bullying and harassment which I hope includes:

1. **Appropriate consequences** for the students involved and those who were bystanders
2. **Educational intervention** to help these students understand the harmful nature of antisemitism and the specific impact of the language they used. The Holocaust Education Center has ample speakers and resources in this area.
3. **Ensuring ample protection** and necessary changes to ensure this student is not subjected to this in the future or any retaliation.

The Jewish community is looking to the school to demonstrate that antisemitic behavior will not be tolerated and that meaningful action—both disciplinary and educational—will be taken. I'm available to discuss how our organizations can support the school's response.

I greatly appreciate your support during this difficult time for the student and their family, and look forward to connecting.

Stephanie

Stephanie Hague

Chief Strategy Officer

401.421.4111 ext. 127

shague@jewishalliancerj.org

Pronouns: she | her

401 Elmgrave Avenue | Providence, RI 02906 | jewishalliancerj.org

Date : 10/10/2025 9:07:50 AM
From : "Stephanie Hague"
To : "Bartz, Dawn"
Subject : RE: Connecting from the Jewish Alliance
Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;image003.png;image004.png;
Hi Dawn,
Thanks for the quick response—I really appreciate it.

I look forward to reconnecting with you once your investigation is complete and you've decided on a reasonable response to the incident. We would be more than happy to support bringing in speakers to the school, providing volunteer hours to the students, or other resources.

Best,
Stephanie

From: Bartz, Dawn <dbartz@smithfield-ps.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 2:58 PM
To: Stephanie Hague <SHague@JewishAllianceRI.org>
Subject: Re: Connecting from the Jewish Alliance

Dear Stephanie,

Thank you for reaching out and for the care and concern you've expressed on behalf of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island. We appreciate your outreach and the important work your organization does to support education and awareness across our state.

As you noted, this matter is currently under active investigation, and we are unable to share details or discuss specific students. Please know, however, that we are taking this situation very seriously and addressing it in accordance with our district's policies related to student conduct, bullying, harassment, and hazing.

We greatly value your offer of support and will be in touch soon to discuss opportunities for collaboration, such as educational programming and training focused on antisemitism, bias prevention, and inclusion.

Thank you again for reaching out and for your kind offer to be a partner in fostering a safe and respectful learning environment for our students. I will circle back with you soon.

Sincerely,

Dawn

Dawn Bartz, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Smithfield Public Schools
49 Farnum Pike, Smithfield, RI

(401) 231-6606, ext. 8101

On Thu, Oct 9, 2025 at 11:00 AM Stephanie Hague <SHague@jewishallianceri.org> wrote:

> Dear Dr. Bartz,
>
> I'm writing from the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island regarding a serious incident brought to my attention [redacted] subjected to antisemitic harassment during football practice last week at Smithfield High School.
>
> I understand you and the school principal are already addressing this matter. I want you to know that both the Jewish Alliance and the Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center are available as resources to support you and your staff in responding to this incident.
>
> While the family has chosen not to file a police report at this time, I trust the school will uphold its zero-tolerance policy on bullying and harassment which I hope includes:
>
> 1. **Appropriate consequences** for the students involved and those who were bystanders
> 2. **Educational intervention** to help these students understand the harmful nature of antisemitism and the specific impact of the language they used. The Holocaust Education Center has ample speakers and resources in this area.
> 3. **Ensuring ample protection** and necessary changes to ensure this student is not subjected to this in the future or any retaliation.
>
> The Jewish community is looking to the school to demonstrate that antisemitic behavior will not be tolerated and that meaningful action—both disciplinary and educational—will be taken. I'm available to discuss how our organizations can support the school's response.
> I greatly appreciate your support during this difficult time for the student and their family, and look forward to connecting.
>
> Stephanie

Stephanie Hague

Chief Strategy Officer
401.421.4111 ext. 127
shague@jewishalliance.org
Pronouns: she | her

401 Elmgrove Avenue | Providence, RI 02906 | jewishalliance.org

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The information contained in this transmission is confidential. It is intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or organization(s) to whom it is addressed. If you have received this transmission in error, please advise the sender and destroy all copies. Any disclosure, copying or further distribution is prohibited unless explicitly approved in writing by the Smithfield Public Schools.
https://smithfield-ps.org

Date : 10/10/2025 3:05:23 PM
From : "Bartz, Dawn"
To : "Stephanie Hague"
BCc : "Dawn Bartz"
Subject : Re: Connecting from the Jewish Alliance
Attachment : image001.png;image002.png;image003.png;image004.png;
Stephanie,
We have come to the conclusion of the investigation and consequences given as well as a plan for education in partnership with the Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center. I am very glad to have had the opportunity to speak with Wendy Joering, Exec. Director, and hope to also partner with you. I understand that the Holocaust Education Center is within the Alliance. Thank you.
Dawn
Dawn Bartz, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Smithfield Public Schools
49 Farnum Pike, Smithfield, RI
(401) 231-6606, ext. 8101

On Fri, Oct 10, 2025 at 9:07 AM Stephanie Hague <SHague@jewishallianceri.org> wrote:

> Hi Dawn,
>
> Thanks for the quick response---I really appreciate it.
>
> I look forward to reconnecting with you once your investigation is complete and you've decided on a reasonable response to the incident. We would be more than happy to support bringing in speakers to the school, providing volunteer hours to the students, or other resources.
>
> Best,
>
> Stephanie
>
> **From:** Bartz, Dawn <dbartz@smithfield-ps.org>
> **Sent:** Thursday, October 9, 2025 2:58 PM
> **To:** Stephanie Hague <SHague@JewishAllianceRI.org>
> **Subject:** Re: Connecting from the Jewish Alliance

Dear Stephanie,

Thank you for reaching out and for the care and concern you've expressed on behalf of the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island. We appreciate your outreach and the important work your organization does to support education and awareness across our state.

As you noted, this matter is currently under active investigation, and we are unable to share details or discuss specific students. Please know, however, that we are taking this situation very seriously and addressing it in accordance with our district's policies related to student conduct, bullying, harassment, and hazing.

We greatly value your offer of support and will be in touch soon to discuss opportunities for collaboration, such as educational programming and training focused on antisemitism, bias prevention, and inclusion.

Thank you again for reaching out and for your kind offer to be a partner in fostering a safe and respectful learning environment for our students. I will circle back with you soon.

Sincerely,

Dawn

Dawn Bartz, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

Smithfield Public Schools

49 Farnum Pike, Smithfield, RI

(401) 231-6606, ext. 8101

On Thu, Oct 9, 2025 at 11:00 AM Stephanie Hague <SHague@jewishallianceri.org> wrote:

> Dear Dr. Bartz,
>
> I'm writing from the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island regarding a serious incident brought to my attention [redacted]

[redacted] subjected to antisemitic harassment during football practice last week at Smithfield High School.

I understand you and the school principal are already addressing this matter. I want you to know that both the Jewish Alliance and the Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center are available as resources to support you and your staff in responding to this incident.

While the family has chosen not to file a police report at this time, I trust the school will uphold its zero-tolerance policy on bullying and harassment which I hope includes:

1. **Appropriate consequences** for the students involved and those who were bystanders
2. **Educational intervention** to help these students understand the harmful nature of antisemitism and the specific impact of the language they used. The Holocaust Education Center has ample speakers and resources in this area.
3. **Ensuring ample protection** and necessary changes to ensure this student is not subjected to this in the future or any retaliation.

The Jewish community is looking to the school to demonstrate that antisemitic behavior will not be tolerated and that meaningful action—both disciplinary and educational—will be taken. I'm available to discuss how our organizations can support the school's response.

I greatly appreciate your support during this difficult time for the student and their family, and look forward to connecting.

Stephanie

Stephanie Hague

Chief Strategy Officer

401.421.4111 ext. 127

shague@jewishalliance.org

Pronouns: she | her

401 Elmgrove Avenue | Providence, RI 02906 | jewishall@jewishri.org

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The information contained in this transmission is confidential. It is intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or organization(s) to whom it is addressed. If you have received this transmission in error, please advise the sender and destroy all copies. Any disclosure, copying or further distribution is prohibited unless explicitly approved in writing by the Smithfield Public Schools. https://smithfield-ps.org

Date : 10/13/2025 7:34:38 PM
From : "Stephanie Hague"
To : "Ward, Kristin"
Subject : Automatic reply: [redacted]

Thank you for emailing. The Jewish Alliance offices are closed until Thursday, October 16 in observance of the Jewish holidays of Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah.

If this is a security-related urgent matter, please call 911. For non-urgent security matters, please contact Nappy Brito at nbrito@jewishallianceri.org

Thank you,

Stephanie

Date : 10/27/2025 11:47:58 AM
From : "Ward, Kristin"
To : "Dawn Bartz"
Subject : Fwd: Urgent

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Wendy Joering** <wjoering@hereri.org>
Date: Wed, Oct 22, 2025 at 4:04 PM
Subject: Urgent
To: <sbartz@smithfield-ps.org>, Ward, Kristin <kward@smithfield-ps.org gcastiglia@smithfield-ps.org>, <kpurvis@smithfield-ps.org>
Cc: Stephanie Hague <shague@jewishallianceri.org>

Hi Dr. Bartz,

Stephanie Hague and I just spoke with [redacted] who is understandably upset and angry. She informed us that the five perpetrating football students returned to practice today and have been reinstated to the team, according to her son.

This directly contradicts the comprehensive plan we reviewed and you approved last week. I left that meeting confident we were aligned on next steps following this serious incident.

This development raises significant concerns about the district's commitment to:

- Supporting the victim of the original antisemitism and harassment incident
- Following through on the agreed-upon educational and engagement plan
- Positively improving school culture
- Implementing meaningful consequences instead of suspension for perpetrating students.

Allowing these students to be reinstated and participate in end-of-season activities minimizes the severity of their actions against a fellow student. It sends a clear message that there are no real consequences for such behavior.

I want to continue working together productively. However, we need to discuss how to move forward in a way that demonstrates the district's commitment to enforcing its own zero-tolerance policy, which states: "The Smithfield School District is committed to maintaining and promoting an educational environment free from all forms of discrimination, including harassment, at school."

Please be aware that [redacted] is now considering filing a police report and retaining legal counsel to protect her son's right to a harassment-free environment—a right she feels are being dismissed by these recent actions – and we are in 100% agreement with her.

Please reach out to me as your earliest convenience [redacted]

Wendy

Inline image
Wendy L. Joering, Executive Director
Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center
401 Elmgrove Avenue, Providence, RI 02906
p 401.453.7860

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The information contained in this transmission is confidential. It is intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or organization(s) to whom it is addressed. If you have received this transmission in error, please advise the sender and destroy all pages. Any disclosure, copying or further distribution is prohibited unless expressly approved in writing by the Smithfield Public Schools. https://smithfield.ps.org